Chemnitz dialect

Chemnitz dialect is a distinct German dialect of the city of Chemnitz and an urban variety of Vorerzgebirgisch, a variant of Upper Saxon German.[1]

Chemnitz dialect	
Native to	Germany
Region	Chemnitz
Language family	Indo-European ▪ Germanic ▪ West Germanic ▪ High German ▪ Central German ▪ East Central German ▪ Upper Saxon German ▪ Vorerzgebirgisch ▪ **Chemnitz dialect**
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	–
Glottolog	*None*

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Phonology

Consonants

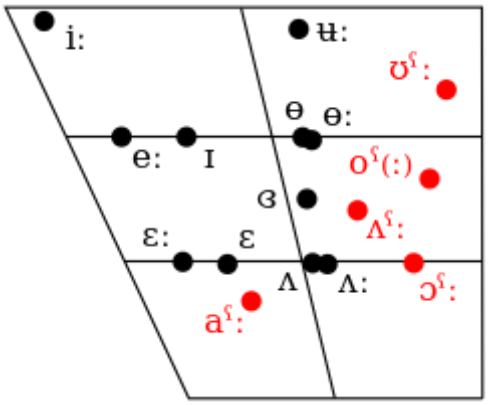
Consonant phonemes[1]

		Labial	Dental	Postalveolar	Dorsal	Glottal
Nasal		m	n		ŋ	
Plosive	**fortis**				kʰ	
	lenis	p	t		k	
Fricative		f	s	ʃ	χ	h
Approximant		ʊ			j	
Liquid			l		ʁ	

- /m, p/ are bilabial, whereas /f, ʊ/ are labiodental.[2]
- /n, t, l, s/ are dental [n̪, t̪, l̪, s̪].[1]
  - /t/ is alveolar [t̻] after /ʃ/.[3]
- /ŋ, kʰ, k/ are velar, /χ, ʁ/ are uvular, and /j/ is palatal. /χ-ʁ/ do not constitute a voiceless-voiced pair.[2]
  - The /kʰ–k/ contrast is restricted to the word-initial position. In many cases, it corresponds to the /k–g/ contrast in Standard German.[4]

- /ʁ/ occurs only in onsets, and it has few possible pronunciations, which are in free variation with one another:[3]
  - Voiced uvular approximant [ʁ̞];[3]
  - Voiced [ʁ] or voiceless [ʁ̥] lenis uvular fricative;[3]
  - Voiceless uvular trill [ʀ̥];[3]
  - Voiceless lenis uvular stop [q̥].[3]
- /p, t, k, f, s, ʃ, χ/ may be voiced between sonorants.[4]
  - Word-final /p, t, k/ are sometimes voiced to [b̥, d̥, g̥].[5]
  - Word-initially, the /t–k/ contrast is neutralized before /l/, which means that e.g. the word *Kleid* ('dress') can be pronounced as either [tleːt] or [kleːt].[6]
- When a stop or fricative precedes, the sequences /əm, ən, əŋ, əl/ can be realized as syllabic consonants [m̩, n̩, ŋ̍, l̩]. The nasals appear depending on the place of articulation of the preceding consonant, so that it can be bilabial [m̩], dental [n̪], velar [ŋ̍] or uvular [ɴ̩].[3]
- When another nasal precedes a syllabic nasal, such sequence is realized as a single consonant of variable length.[3]
- Non-phonemic glottal stop [ʔ] is inserted in two cases:
  - Before word-initial vowels, even the unstressed ones.[3]
  - Before stressed syllable-initial vowels within words.[3]

Vowels



Monophthongs of the Chemnitz dialect, from Khan & Weise (2013:236–237). Red vowels are pharyngealized.

Plain[7]

	[-back]		[+back]	
	short	long	short	long
Close	ɪ	iː	ɵ	ʉː
Close-mid		eː		ɵː

Pharyngealized[8]

	Unrounded	Rounded	
		short	long
Close			ʊˤː
Close-mid		oˤ	oˤː

Non-native[9]

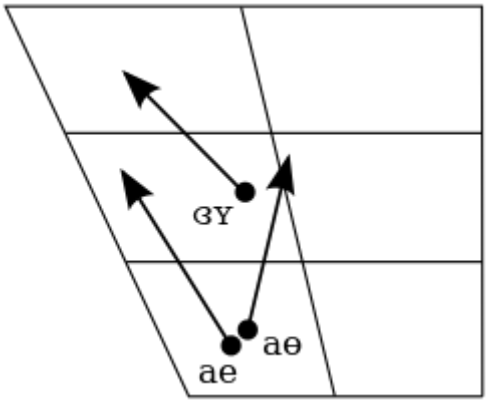
	Short	Long
Close	ʏ	yː
Close-mid		øː
Open-mid	œ	

Open-mid	ɛ	ɛː	ɞ		**Open-mid**	ʌˤː		ɔˤː
Open			ʌ	ʌː	**Open**	aˤː		

- The pharyngealized vowels correspond to the sequences of vowel + /r/ in the standard language.[8]
- The non-native vowels are occasionally used in cognates of some Standard German words, such as *brüder* [ˈpʁyːtoˤ] ('brothers'). In other cases, they are pronounced the same as /ɪ, iː, ɛ, eː/.[9]
- Unstressed short oral monophthongs may fall together as [ə].[7]
- /ʊˤː, oˤː, ʌˤː, ɔˤː, aˤː/ are often diphthongal [ʊːʊ̯ˤ, oːʊ̯ˤ, ɪːʊ̯ˤ, ɔːʊ̯ˤ, ɛːʊ̯ˤ] in careful speech. Monophthongal realizations are optionally shortened in certain positions.[10]
- /oˤ/ corresponds to Standard German [ɐ].[8]
- Monophthongs are somewhat retracted when they precede dorsals, except /j/. The retraction is strongest before /χ, ʁ/. To a certain extent, this is also true of monophthongs that follow dorsal consonants.[9]
- Monophthongs are allophonically pharyngealized if a vowel in the following syllable is pharyngealized.[9]
- The phonetic quality of the monophthongs is as follows:
  - /iː, ʉː, ɵ, ɵː, ʊˤː/ are close to the canonical values of the corresponding IPA symbols [iː, ʉː, ɵ, ɵː, ʊˤː].[10]
  - /ɪ/ is close-mid [ɪ̞].[7]
  - /eː, ɛ, ɛː, oˤ, oˤː, ɔˤː/ are more central than the canonical values of the corresponding IPA symbols: [ëː, ɛ̈, ɛ̈ː, öˤ, öˤː, ɔ̈ˤː].[10]
  - /ɞ/ is mid [ɞ̞].[7]
  - /ʌˤː/ is mid near-back [ʌ̟ˤː].[8]
  - /ʌ, ʌː/ are central [ɜ, ɜː].[7]
  - /aˤː/ is near-open near-front [a̟ˤː].[8]

Diphthong phonemes[8]

	Ending point	
	unrounded	rounded
Mid		ɞʏ
Open	ae	aɵ



Diphthongs of the Chemnitz dialect, from Khan & Weise (2013:237).

- The starting point of /ɞʏ/ is higher and more front than the canonical value of the corresponding IPA symbol ([ɞ̟]).[8]
- The starting points of /ae/ and /aɵ/ are higher and more central than the canonical value of the corresponding IPA symbol ([ä]).[8]
- The ending points of Chemnitz German diphthongs are close to the canonical values of the corresponding IPA symbols ([ʏ, e, ɵ]).[8]

Sample

The sample text is a reading of the first sentence of The North Wind and the Sun.[11]

Broad phonetic transcription

[ˈeːnəs ˈtʌːχəs hʌmʃ toˀ ˈnoˀːtʊɪnt ɵnt tə ˈsɞnə kəˈtsʌŋt | ʊaˀː fɞn ˈpeːtn̩ tɛn nʉː toˀ ˈʃtaˀːkʁə ɪs | ɛls ə ˈʊʌntʁoˀ mɪt nəm ˈʊɔˀːmən ˈmʌntɬ ʌn | foˀˈpeːkʰʌːm][11]

Orthographic version (standard German)

Eines Tages haben sich der Nordwind und die Sonne gezankt, wer von den beiden denn nun der Stärkere ist, als ein Wanderer mit einem warmen Mantel an, vorbeikam.[11]

References

1. Khan & Weise (2013), p. 231.
2. Khan & Weise (2013), pp. 231–232.
3. Khan & Weise (2013), p. 235.
4. Khan & Weise (2013), pp. 232–233.
5. Khan & Weise (2013), p. 232.
6. Khan & Weise (2013), p. 234.
7. Khan & Weise (2013), p. 236.
8. Khan & Weise (2013), p. 237.
9. Khan & Weise (2013), p. 238.
10. Khan & Weise (2013), pp. 236–237.
11. Khan & Weise (2013), p. 239.

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- Khan, Sameer ud Dowla; Weise, Constanze (2013), "Upper Saxon (Chemnitz dialect)" (http://academic.reed.edu/linguistics/khan/assets/Khan%20Weise%202013%20Upper%20Saxon%20Chemnitz%20dialect.pdf) (PDF), *Journal of the International Phonetic Association*, **43** (2): 231–241, doi:10.1017/S0025100313000145 (https://doi.org/10.1017%2FS0025100313000145)

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